Proposal for incentives to increase Engineering Exports

878. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:
SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to give incentives to increase engineering exports;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that engineering export promotion council had given some suggestions to Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) what action Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (e) Promotion of exports has been the constant endeavolur of the Government. Measures taken to boost exports of engineering goods consist of various incentives under the Export-Import Policy including Duty Exemption Scheme, Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme, Special Import Licences, Duty Drawback Scheme, exemption under section 80 HHC of Income Tax Act, assistance from Market Development Funds and Making available deferred credit and line of credit to facilitate exports etc. In addition, a new scheme called Engineering Products Export (Replenishment of Iron & Steel Intermediates) Scheme has been notified by the Government on 1.3.95. The suggestions/requests received from the Export Promotion Council (EEPC) relating to the Govt. policy have been considered in consultation with the concerned Departments and incorporated in the Exim Policy wherever necessary.

Exemption of Non-Basmati Rice from Levy

879. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have exempted or propose to exempt export quality on non-Basmati rice from levy;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard;

(c) what is the present rice stock position (both Basmati and non-Basmati) available with the Food Corporation of India and how long it is likely to last to sustain the Public Distribution System; and

(d) what is the quantity of Basmati and non-Basmati rice exported during each of the last three years and proposed to be exported during the year 1995-96?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) In September, 1994 the Central Government decided to exempt non-Basmati super fine rice meant for export from levy during the 1994-95 Kharif Marketing Season. Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Delhi, Haryana, Punjab, West Bengal and Rajasthan have given effect to this decision. Government of Orissa intimated that no rice mill in the State is engaged in export activities, while Mizoram have intimated that no non-basmati rice is being exported from the State. Manipour informed that no levy order exists in the State.

In May, 1995 the Central Government further decided to exmpt the fine variety of non-basmati rice also meant for export from levy during the rest of the 1994-95 Kharif marketing season. In response to this Mizoram and Tripura have stated that there is no levy on rice in these States while Assam and Himachal Pradesh informed that there is no export of fine rice from these States. Delhi and Madhya Pradesh have given effect to this decision.

(c) The present stock of rice in the Central Pool as on 1-7-1995 is 16.44